

HEALTH HEAD FINDS MUCH PETTY GRAFT

Copeland Says Employees Use Their Badges to Collect Fees.

SILENT ON PUBLICITY

Declines to Comment on Mayor's Proposal to Abolish Bureau.

Dr. Royal S. Copeland, at the end of his first week as Commissioner of the Health Department said yesterday there is a great deal of petty graft in the department and that he means to clean it up. The graft was made known by the graft's Last Wednesday in the District Court's two, coincident with the indictment of two men, inspectors and a messenger. He announced that there was no further evidence of graft and that the activity of that office along those lines was over.

The Commissioner's statement was made in answer to a question regarding the charge by Dr. J. Lewis Smith in his letter of resignation from the Commission, in which he stated the grafting had started the abolishing of baby milk stations.

He said he did not believe Mayor Hylan made any such suggestion, that he believed his Honor loves the people and has their best interests at heart and reiterated his previous announcements that the Mayor has not suggested any reorganization of any bureau. In regard to graft he said:

"There are between 3,000 and 4,000 health employees, and a great many of them are doing good work. I have given this authority to the public health and

Asked specifically of his intention regarding the proposed reorganization of the bureau, of which Dr. Louis I. Harris is director, and whether he would institute changes there, he replied:

"I am in favor of it as it is organized with its present chief. I am confident of the ability of Dr. Harris and greatly pleased with the work he is doing."

Before the Mayor's inquiry into the Health Department was thrown open to the public the Bureau of Preventable Diseases had been the subject of an inquiry upon which the attention of the investigators was fixed. Subsequently there was a storm of protest against rumors that this department was to be abolished.

When Commissioner Copeland was told a report had been circulated in fact that the bureau was to be abolished, the Bureau of Industrial Hygiene was being used for other purposes, he answered:

"An appropriation of \$53,000 has been made to be used among the laboring class and I can assure you every cent of it will be used for this purpose."

On the day after the report was published in the office six days ago Dr. Copeland was asked yesterday if he intended to change the personnel of the bureau of public health.

Retiree Attacks Dr. Boldman.

When he was asked if he would say the same thing about Dr. Charles F. Boldman and his department that he had said about the Federal Bureau of Investigation, he replied he would not.

In regard to the trial of Luctus P. Brown, suspected head of the bureau of opium and drugs, before the Board of Health, comprised of the Police Commissioner, the Health Commissioner and the Health Officer of the port, Dr. Boldman said it is no business of his to know the usual procedure. He stated that Mr. Brown will be given an open trial and that the Board of Health will be the examination of witnesses, and that this council will attend.

Earlier in the day there had been some discussion of the suspension of Mr. Brown had been alleged. This was not clarified, and George Gordon Battle, counsel for the former head of the bureau of opium and drugs, settled it by saying:

"We will waive that point. All we want is a fair, speedy and open trial."

At the Federal Department investigation of the health department investigation witnesses stated it would be almost impossible to replace the heads of the different departments of the health department, with persons of the same caliber and

Several tempting offers to other positions with greater income have been made to departmental heads since the beginning of the health hubbub.

The Health Commissioner said he has issued invitations to the District Attorney, the Police Commissioner, the Commissioners of the Correction and Charity, and the Board of Health to represent the office of the Surgeon-General's office to attend a meeting in his office tomorrow to discuss the technicalities and different phases of the new law.

W. C. HUT FOR PELHAM BAY.

Dedicated at Training Station
With Elaborate Services.

Rear Admiral N. M. Usher, U. S. N., formally accepted yesterday the Knights of Columbus hat at the Pelham Bay naval training station. The acceptance was made in the presence of representatives which included the dedication of the building by Bishop Patrick J. Hayes, "chaplain-general of all the Catholic churches in the world."

Presentation of the hat, which is similar to those erected by the Y. M. C. A. at all cantonments, was made by Dr. William Charles Larkin, a member of the board of directors of the Knights of Columbus.

AGREE ON WAR HOUSING BILL.
The conferees Accept Senate Plan to Vest Power in President.

WASHINGTON, May 4.—Agreement on the bill appropriating \$50,000,000 for housing war necessities was reached today, when the House conferees accepted the Senate's plan of vesting power in the president instead of the Secretary of Labor.

The conferees retained the limitation against requisitioning occupied residences, except by contract and under a certificate of necessity from the Federal Housing Administration.

Another amendment adopted provides that housing acquired shall be sold as soon as possible after the war.

The conferees also retained the prohibition against "cost plus" contracts and requiring bids from three contractors.

5,100 to Strike in Pittsfield.

PITTSFIELD, Mass., May 4.—Union employees of the General Electric plant, will strike Monday morning, according to a statement made by the company last night. About 5,100 employees

new working agreement to settle questions in dispute with the right of unions to name conference committees as they see fit, and the elimination of all forms of individual contracts.